

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

DONALD F. BENOIT, Derivatively on
Behalf of MBNA CORP. and on Behalf of
Himself and All Others Similarly Situation,

Plaintiff,

vs.

BRUCE L. HAMMONDS, *et al.*

Defendants,

--and--

BANK OF AMERICA CORPORATION, a
Delaware Corporation, AS SUCCESSOR IN
INTEREST TO MBNA CORP., and MBNA
CORP., a Maryland Corporation,

Nominal Defendants.

LEMON BAY PARTNERS, and
MALCOLM ROSENWALD,

Plaintiff,

--against--

BRUCE L. HAMMONDS, *et al.*

Defendants,

--and--

BANK OF AMERICA CORPORATION, AS
SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO MBNA
CORP., and MBNA CORP.,

Nominal Defendants.

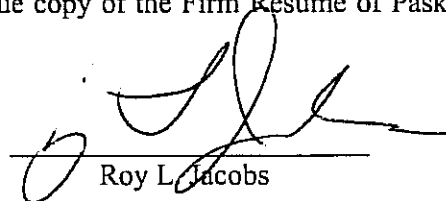
Civ. No. 07-CV-561

Civ. No. 07-CV-562

**DECLARATION OF ROY L. JACOBS IN SUPPORT OF THE BENOIT
GROUP'S APPLICATION TO BE APPOINTED LEAD PLAINTIFF
AND TO APPROVE DESIGNATION OF LEAD COUNSEL**

Roy L. Jacobs, being duly sworn, deposes and says under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the United States, this 10th day of December, 2007:

1. I am one of plaintiffs' counsel, and the principal in Roy Jacobs & Associates. My business address is 60 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10165.
2. Annexed hereto as Exhibit A is a true copy of the notice disseminated in the Investor's Business Daily on October 9, 2007.
3. Annexed hereto as Exhibit B are true copies of plaintiffs' Certifications.
4. Annexed hereto as Exhibit C is a true copy of the Firm Resume of Robbins Umeda and Fink, LLP.
5. Annexed hereto as Exhibit D is a true copy of the Firm Resume of Paskowitz & Associates.



Roy L. Jacobs

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, A. Zachary Naylor, do hereby certify that on this 10th day of December, 2007, I caused copies of the Declaration of Roy L. Jacobs in Support of The Benoit Group's Motion to be Appointed Lead Plaintiff and to Approve Designation of Lead Counsel and Exhibits thereto to be served on the following counsel in the manner indicated:

BY HAND DELIVERY

Richard H. Morse
Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP
The Brandywine Building
1000 West Street, 17th Floor
P.O. Box 391
Wilmington, DE 19899

Edward P. Welch
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom
One Rodney Square
P.O. Box 636
Wilmington, DE 19899

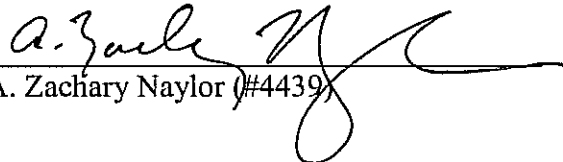

A. Zachary Naylor (#4439)

EXHIBIT A

INVESTOR'S BUSINESS DAILY

MUTUAL FUND PERFORMANCE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2007 A11

Closed-End Funds																													
Growth Funds															Value Funds														
Fund Name					NAV					SYN					FUND NAME					NAV					SYN				
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12/28/91-97	\$ 750	1000-94-9550	+11 S&P500 Ind	+7 17.75%-96	+11 S&P 500	+7 22.26%-96	+18 Int Growth I	+10 25.0%-97	+8 Balanced Int	+7 22.64%-96	+17 SovCap H&I 2	+8 3.70%-96
12/28/91-97	\$ 1000	1000-94-9550	+11 S&P500 Ind	+7 17.75%-96	+11 S&P 500	+7 22.26%-96	+18 Int Growth I	+10 25.0%-97	+8 Balanced Int	+7 22.64%-96	+17 SovCap H&I 2	+8 3.70%-96
12/28/91-97	\$ 1000	1000-94-9550	+11 S&P500 Ind	+7 17.75%-96	+11 S&P 500	+7 22.26%-96	+18 Int Growth I	+10 25.0%-97	+8 Balanced Int	+7 22.64%-96	+17 SovCap H&I 2	+8 3.70%-96
12/28/91-97	\$ 1000	1000-94-9550	+11 S&P500 Ind	+7 17.75%-96	+11 S&P 500	+7 22.26%-96	+18 Int Growth I	+10 25.0%-97	+8 Balanced Int	+7 22.64%-96	+17 SovCap H&I 2	+8 3.70%-96
12/28/91-97	\$ 1000	1000-94-9550	+11 S&P500 Ind	+7 17.75%-96	+11 S&P 500	+7 22.26%-96	+18 Int Growth I	+10 25.0%-97	+8 Balanced Int	+7 22.64%-96	+17 SovCap H&I 2	+8 3.70%-96
12/28/91-97	\$ 1000	1000-94-9550	+11 S&P500 Ind	+7 17.75%-96	+11 S&P 500	+7 22.26%-96	+18 Int Growth I	+10 25.0%-97	+8 Balanced Int	+7 22.64%-96	+17 SovCap H&I 2	+8 3.70%-96
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LEGAL SERVICES

ROY JACOB & ASSOCIATES Continuation of Class Action Suit on Behalf of Former Shareholders of MBNA Corp. and New Filings

NEW YORK, NY — Since 2003, Roy Jacob & Associates and other counsel have been involved in a class action in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware on behalf of MBNA Corp. shareholders relating to the exchange of MBNA shares in the merger with Bank of America Corp. ("BAC"), derivative contribution, and other matters. The plaintiffs in that action were previously appointed lead plaintiffs, and their counsel were appointed lead counsel. That suit was dismissed by the Court which held that the federal claim asserted was too insignificant to confer federal jurisdiction when compared to the state law claims asserted under Maryland law. The Court dismissed the entire complaint. Plaintiffs have moved for reconsideration of that decision, which is still pending. Plaintiffs have now filed the current complaint alleging a violation of Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act by the fraudulent issuance of the Proxy, with scienter, as discussed below. The defendants have expressed to the Court, inter alia, that in their view the ruling was a maneuver to improperly avoid the Court's prior dismissal decision, that the filing violates the price consolidation order, and that Plaintiffs are barred by the doctrine of res judicata from maintaining the refiled action. It is anticipated that defendants will promptly move to dismiss the action asserting these and many other reasons to justify dismissal.

For further information you may call toll free, 1-888-884-4490, or contact counsel by e-mail by writing to rljacob@jacoblaw.com.

The complaint alleges that certain defendants, which include certain of the Company's top executives, violated the antifraud provisions of the federal securities laws by issuing a Joint Proxy Statement (the "Proxy") in connection with the merger of MBNA and BAC which was false and misleading, and resulted in MBNA shareholders receiving less for their shares than they otherwise would have. Specifically, the Proxy failed to disclose: (1) certain technical information concerning MBNA; (2) the potential value of certain claims in favor of MBNA; (3) the events leading up to the merger in an accurate manner; and, (4) the reasons for the grant of certain indemnifications. Also asserted in the complaint are certain state law claims which are governed by Maryland law.

If your MBNA shares were exchanged for BAC shares on or about January 1, 2006 pursuant to the 2005 merger, you may qualify to serve as Lead Plaintiff on behalf of the Class, which is all entities whose MBNA shares were exchanged for BAC shares in the merger. All motions for appointment as Lead Plaintiff must be filed 60 days from this notice.

If you wish to discuss this action or have any questions concerning this notice or your rights with respect to this matter, please contact Roy L. Jacob. We will speak with you at no cost or obligation.

Counsel:
Roy Jacob & Associates
Roy L. Jacob, Esq.
Toll free: 1-888-884-4490
rljacob@jacoblaw.com

EXHIBIT B-1

PLAINTIFF'S CERTIFICATE AND VERIFICATION

Donald Benoit ("Plaintiff"), declares, as to the claims asserted under the federal securities laws, that:

Plaintiff has reviewed the complaint involving, among other things, claims that the federal proxy laws and other federal laws were violated in connection with the MBNA and Bank of America merger, and believes such allegations as are contained in the complaint, directly and derivatively, to be accurate and correct to the best of plaintiff's information, knowledge and belief.

Plaintiff did not acquire the security that is the subject of this action at the direction of plaintiff's counsel or in order to participate in this private action or any other litigation under the federal securities laws.

Plaintiff is willing to serve as a representative party on behalf of a class, including providing testimony at deposition and trial, if necessary.

Plaintiff will not accept any payment for serving as a representative party on behalf of the class beyond the Plaintiff's pro rata share of any recovery, except such reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) directly relating to the representation of the class as approved by the court.

Plaintiff owned shares of MBNA common stock prior to the announcement of the MBNA and Bank of America merger, did not vote shares it was eligible to vote in favor of the merger, and had 300 shares, which were exchanged pursuant to the merger. Plaintiff continues to own shares of Bank of America stock received pursuant to the merger.

During the three years prior to the date of this Certification, Plaintiff has moved to serve or served as a representative party for a class in an action filed under the federal securities laws.

I declare under penalty of perjury, this 12th day of September, 2007 that the information above is accurate.


DONALD BENOIT

EXHIBIT B-2

PLAINTIFF'S CERTIFICATE AND VERIFICATION

Lemon Bay Partners ("Plaintiff"), declares, as to the claims asserted under the federal securities laws, that:

Plaintiff has reviewed the complaint involving, among other things, claims that the federal proxy laws and other federal laws were violated in connection with the MBNA and Bank of America merger, and believes such allegations as are contained in the complaint, directly and derivatively, to be accurate and correct to the best of plaintiff's information, knowledge and belief.

Plaintiff did not acquire the security that is the subject of this action at the direction of plaintiff's counsel or in order to participate in this private action or any other litigation under the federal securities laws.

Plaintiff is willing to serve as a representative party on behalf of a class, including providing testimony at deposition and trial, if necessary.

Plaintiff will not accept any payment for serving as a representative party on behalf of the class beyond the Plaintiff's pro rata share of any recovery, except such reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) directly relating to the representation of the class as approved by the court.

Plaintiff owned shares of MBNA common stock prior to the announcement of the MBNA and Bank of America merger, did not vote shares it was eligible to vote in favor of the merger, and had 92 shares, which were exchanged pursuant to the merger. Plaintiff continues to own shares of Bank of America stock received pursuant to the merger.

During the three years prior to the date of this Certification, Plaintiff has moved to serve or served as a representative party for a class in an action filed under the federal securities laws.

I declare under penalty of perjury, this 18th day of September, 2007 that the information above is accurate.



Dean Drulis, Manager

EXHIBIT B-3

PLAINTIFF'S CERTIFICATE AND VERIFICATION

Malcolm Rosenwald ("Plaintiff"), declares, as to the claims asserted under the federal securities laws, that:

Plaintiff has reviewed the complaint involving, among other things, claims that the federal proxy laws were violated in connection with the MBNA and Bank of America merger, and believes such allegations as are contained in the complaint, directly and derivatively, to be accurate and correct to the best of plaintiff's information, knowledge and belief.

Plaintiff did not acquire the security that is the subject of this action at the direction of plaintiff's counsel or in order to participate in this private action or any other litigation under the federal securities laws.

Plaintiff is willing to serve as a representative party on behalf of a class, including providing testimony at deposition and trial, if necessary.

Plaintiff will not accept any payment for serving as a representative party on behalf of the class beyond the Plaintiff's pro rata share of any recovery, except such reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) directly relating to the representation of the class as approved by the court.

Plaintiff owned shares of MBNA common stock prior to the announcement of the MBNA and Bank of America merger, did not vote shares it was eligible to vote in favor of the merger, and had 2222 shares which were exchanged pursuant to the merger, such an exchange being the equivalent of a purchase and sale under the federal securities laws. Plaintiff continues to own shares of Bank of America stock received pursuant to the merger.

During the three years prior to the date of this Certification, Plaintiff has not sought to serve or served as a representative party for a class in an action filed under the federal securities laws.

I declare under penalty of perjury, this 12th day of September, 2007 that the information above is accurate.

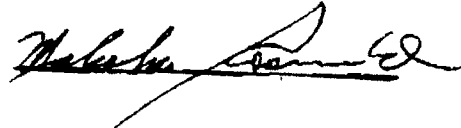


EXHIBIT C

ROBBINS UMEDA & FINK, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

610 West Ash Street, Suite 1800
San Diego, California 92101
Telephone: 619/525-3990
Facsimile: 619/525-3991
Email: info@ruflaw.com

FIRM RESUME

ROBBINS UMEDA & FINK, LLP

Robbins Umeda & Fink, LLP (the "Firm") specializes in the nationwide prosecution of class and representative actions. The Firm is dedicated to vindicating the rights of shareholders, employees, consumers, and small businesses by passionately litigating these actions in state and federal courts throughout the United States. The Firm focuses on the prosecution of securities fraud actions, shareholder derivative actions, corporate merger actions, and ERISA/401K class actions brought in connection with publicly traded companies against their officers, directors, auditors, and investment banking firms. In addition, the Firm also litigates several consumer fraud and antitrust class actions. By doing so, the Firm has successfully negotiated several noteworthy settlements for its clients.

For example, in a recent securities class action in San Diego, *In re Titan, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, Master File No. 04-CV-0676-LAB (NLS) (S.D. Cal.), the Firm, serving in a Co-Lead Counsel capacity, was able to secure a \$61.5 million settlement on behalf of the Class. This amounted to half of the estimated damages to the class and far exceeded the normal settlement gained in this type of case. It was also one of the largest securities fraud class action settlements in San Diego's history.

The Firm's lawyers also negotiated a settlement in *In re Nicor, Inc. S'holder Derivative Litig.*, Case No. 02 CH 15499, a shareholder derivative action in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, which resulted in personnel changes among Nicor's executive officers and board members, as well as securing \$33 million for Nicor. In recognition of the hard work and significant benefits conferred during the litigation, the Honorable Sophia H. Hall, presiding Judge for the court, stated "Thank you very much for the good work that you all did. And I think that your stockholders will appreciate it, too. Thank you very much." Recently, the Firm secured a settlement of *In re OM Group, Inc. Derivative Litig.*, Case No. 1:03CV0020 (N.D. Ohio). As part of this resolution, the company received a \$29 million benefit, the termination of OM Group's long term CEO, the addition of two shareholder nominated directors, and numerous other highly beneficial corporate governance matters.

The Firm's reputation for excellence has been recognized on repeated occasions by various courts throughout the country by appointing the Firm to leadership positions in complex class and derivative actions. The Firm currently serves as lead counsel in several high profile complex actions around the country. See *In re American International Group, Inc. Derivative Litig.*, Case No. 04 Civ. 08406 (S.D.N.Y.); *In re Forest Labs., Inc. Derivative Litig.*, Case No. 05-CV-3489 (S.D.N.Y.); *Pringle v. Merck & Co., Inc., et al.*, Case No. 03-3125 (D.N.J.); *In re Tenet Healthcare Corporation Derivative Litig.*, Case No. 01098905 (Santa Barbara Super. Ct.); *In re DHB Industries, Inc. Derivative Litig.*, Case No. CV-05-4345 (E.D.N.Y.).

MEMBERS

BRIAN J. ROBBINS

Brian J. Robbins, the Managing Partner and Co-Founder of the Firm, has been an active litigator of shareholder, employee, consumer, and small business rights for several years. In addition

to prosecuting actions for which he has principal responsibility, Mr. Robbins oversees and coordinates the work of the Firm's nearly 50 employees and all its litigation departments. As a litigator, Mr. Robbins has negotiated several noteworthy settlements of complex actions and successfully argued several noteworthy legal issues.

For example, Mr. Robbins was the lead negotiator for the derivative plaintiffs in *Harbor Finance Partners v. McGhan, et al.*, No. H-02-0761 (S.D. Tex.), litigation filed on behalf of Hanover Compressor Company. The "groundbreaking" and "unprecedented" Hanover settlement resulted in, among other things, a \$26.5 million payment to the company, the return of 2.5 million shares to the company, the appointment of two shareholder nominated directors and the agreement to rotate the company's auditing firm. *See This Settlement Raises the Governance Bar; Hanover Compressor's Landmark Agreement with Shareholders to Embrace Major Corporate Reforms Could Have Profound Repercussions*, Stephanie Anderson Forest, BusinessWeek Online, May 15, 2003. Additionally, Mr. Robbins, as sole lead counsel, recently settled *In re OM Group, Inc. Derivative Litig.*, Case No. 1:03CV0020 (N.D. Ohio). As part of this resolution, Mr. Robbins helped secure \$29 million for OM Group, the termination of OM Group's long term CEO, the addition of two shareholder nominated directors, and numerous other highly beneficial corporate governance matters. Mr. Robbins negotiated another groundbreaking settlement to resolve *In re Dynegy, Inc. Derivative Litig.*, Lead Case No. 2002-25250 (Harris County, TX, 164th Judicial District). This settlement acknowledged the role of the litigation in implementing extensive corporate governance reforms including: replacement of 11 members of the Board of Directors and several key officers, adoption of extensive measures specifically designed to increase the independence of the Board of Directors and its various committees, and the establishment of new committees and senior positions to

specifically enhance ethics and compliance efforts, as well as the integrity of the Company's financial reports, and assisted the company in securing a \$150 million benefit, and implemented several critical and necessary corporate governance practices. Mr. Robbins also served in a Co-Lead Counsel capacity in *Larret v. Robertson, et al.*, Lead Case No. GIC754696 (S.D. Super. Ct.), a shareholder derivative action brought on behalf of MP3.com, Inc. ("MP3") which resulted in MP3's adoption of extensive corporate governance measures designed to specifically increase the independence of the board of directors and its committees and the transparency of any trading by insiders. In another shareholder derivative action settled through Mr. Robbins' efforts and the efforts of the Firm, the Honorable Robert S. Lasnik stated:

"Well, I did review the papers here and I think you've actually set the bar kind of high for future settlements. This looks like an excellent result for the various class members in both the derivative action and the other action.... And it's to the credit of the lawyers that they were able to achieve this result before a lot of discovery and a lot of expenses were undertaken.... And so, I would be quite delighted and satisfied to make the necessary findings that this is an excellent settlement for plaintiffs."

In re Cutter & Buck Sec. Litig., No. C02-1948L, Hearing on Settlement Transcript at 6-7 (W.D. Wash. Dec. 2, 2003).

Mr. Robbins has also negotiated several very highly beneficial settlements of securities fraud class action lawsuits. In a recent securities fraud class action in San Diego, *In re Titan, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, Master File No. 04-CV-0676-LAB (NLS) (S.D. Cal.), Mr. Robbins, along with his Firm, serving in a Co-Lead Counsel capacity, were able to secure a \$61.5 million settlement on behalf of the Class. This amounted to half of the estimated damages to the class and far exceeded the normal settlement gained in this type of case. It was also one of the largest securities fraud class action settlements in San Diego's history. Mr. Robbins, as the lead attorney for his prior firm in *Garza, et*

al. v. J.D. Edwards & Co., et al., Case No. 99-1744 (D. Col.), also helped secure over a \$15 million recovery for a class of purchasers of J.D. Edwards & Co. stock.

Likewise, Mr. Robbins has also helped settle numerous other complex class action lawsuits. For example, Mr. Robbins played a pivotal role in *Supnick v. Amazon.com, Inc., et al.*, Case No. C-00-0221-P (W.D. Wash.), litigation which resulted in a \$3.8 million cash recovery for the class and critical injunctive relief protecting the privacy of class members and other users of the Internet.

Mr. Robbins has also been at the forefront of litigation on several novel legal topics. For example, as Co-Lead Counsel in a class action brought on behalf of Internet users who had allegedly had their privacy violated because of the design of certain web pages, Mr. Robbins successfully briefed an opposition to a motion to dismiss brought by defendant Website operator Intuit, Inc. ("Intuit"). The issue, whether Intuit violated sections of the Electronic Communications Privacy Act through the manipulation of cookies placed on its visitors' computers, was a novel and untested application of the law. The court denied the defendant's motion to dismiss plaintiffs' cause of action based upon a violation of 18 U.S.C. §2701, *et seq.*, which prohibits unauthorized access to facilities where electronic communication services are provided. *See In re Intuit Privacy Litig.*, 138 F. Supp. 2d 1272 (C.D. Cal. 2001). This success eventually secured a settlement that resulted in numerous privacy protections provided to the class and future users of the quicken.com Website.

In *In re Toys R Us, Inc. Privacy Litig.*, Mr. Robbins successfully opposed a motion to dismiss claims brought under the Electronic Communications Privacy Act by Toys R Us, Inc. and Coremetrics, Inc. in an action alleging surreptitious monitoring of the activities of the users of the toysrus.com website. Despite the highly technical nature of these types of claims, Mr. Robbins was able to help defeat a motion to dismiss a 18 U.S.C. §2520 claim against Coremetrics and a 18 U.S.C.

§1030 claim against Toys R Us and Coremetrics. *See In re Toys R Us, Inc. Privacy Litig.*, No. 00-CV-2746, 2001 WL 34517252 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 9, 2001). The upholding of these claims against website providers was believed to be the first of their kind. This success lead to a settlement that provided significantly enhanced privacy protections to future users of the toysrus.com Website.

Mr. Robbins has also successfully briefed two issues of first impression as to whether removal of a shareholder derivative action to federal court based upon federal question grounds was proper. In a shareholder derivative action brought on behalf of JDS Uniphase Corporation ("JDS"), the defendants removed the case claiming that a shareholder derivative action based on similar factual allegations as a securities fraud class action brought against JDS and certain of its officers was not an "exclusively derivative" action under the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998 ("SLUSA") and thus SLUSA authorized removal of the action. Mr. Robbins, however, successfully argued that the similarity of the factual allegations could not alter the derivative nature of the action and the case was therefore not removable under SLUSA and should be remanded. *See Coykendall v. Kaplan*, 2002 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 22483 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 1, 2002). As Co-Lead Counsel in a shareholder derivative action brought on behalf of L90, Inc. ("L90"), Mr. Robbins, on another issue of first impression, was also successful in arguing that the removal provisions of SLUSA were not applicable to a shareholder derivative action because that action also included a class action claim seeking to protect the voting rights of L90's shareholders on equitable grounds. *See Shen v. Bohan*, 2002 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 22485 (C.D. Cal. Oct. 16, 2002). Mr. Robbins has also successfully briefed to the Supreme Court of Texas that a trial court's determination of whether a plaintiff has adequately alleged that a demand to initiate suit upon a company's board of directors would have been a futile and useless act is not an issue justifying interlocutory review. *See In re Dynegey, Inc.*,

No. 03-0768, Order (Sup. Ct. Tex. Sept. 8, 2003).

Currently, Mr. Robbins is also acting as lead counsel or as an executive committee member in several other complex litigation matters. Mr. Robbins is also commonly acknowledged as a prominent and respected litigator in his field as evidenced by a recent invitation by the Washington State Bar Association to be a panelist for "After the Storm: Securities and Corporate Litigation in the Post-Sarbanes World" at its 26th Annual Northwest Securities Institute and lectured at the International Class Actions Conference in January of 2007 on the topic of Discovery and eDiscovery Issues. Mr. Robbins was also named one of San Diego's Super Lawyers of 2006.

Mr. Robbins graduated in only two and one-half years from the University of California at Berkeley with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology in 1993. Mr. Robbins then received his law degree from the Vanderbilt School of Law in 1997. While at Vanderbilt, Mr. Robbins received the top score in constitutional law, corporate law, corporate and securities transactions, and soviet law and was a research assistant for two very well respected corporate and securities law professors: (1) Professor Donald C. Langevoort, the Lee S. and Charles A. Speir Professor at Vanderbilt University School of Law, former Special Counsel for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in the Office of the General Counsel, co-author, with Professors James Cox and Robert Hillman, of Securities Regulation: Cases and Materials, the author of Insider Trading: Regulation, Enforcement and Prevention, and author of many law review articles, a number of which seek to incorporate insights from social psychology and behavioral economics into the study of corporate and securities law and legal ethics. Professor Langevoort also has testified numerous times before Congressional committees on issues relating to insider trading and securities litigation reform; and (2) Professor Larry D. Soderquist, one of the best known and most respected corporate and securities law

professors in America, who has authored numerous books and articles on these subjects, including *Understanding the Securities Laws*, the most widely distributed book of its kind. Professor Soderquist also was the Director of Vanderbilt's Corporate and Securities Law Institute. After graduating from Vanderbilt Law School, Mr. Robbins received his LL.M. in Securities and Financial Regulation from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1998. Mr. Robbins is licensed to practice in the State of California, the State of Connecticut, and the United States District Courts for the Central, Northern and Southern Districts of California, the District of Colorado and the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

MARC M. UMEDA

Mr. Umeda is Co-Founder and a Principal of the Firm. Mr. Umeda earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley in 1994 and his law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law in 1998, where he received the top score in Criminal Law and Property Law. Mr. Umeda was also a member of the *San Diego Law Review* and a Dean's Scholarship and Richardson Scholarship recipient. Mr. Umeda is licensed to practice law in the State of California, the United States District Courts for the Northern, Central and Southern Districts of California, the District of Colorado and the United States Court of Appeals for the Second, Third, Fourth and Seventh Circuits.

Mr. Umeda has practiced complex litigation throughout his legal career and devotes all of his time to the area of complex shareholder litigation, including securities fraud and shareholder class and derivative actions nationwide. Mr. Umeda is the lead attorney responsible for the day-to-day management of many complex shareholder derivative actions. In this capacity, Mr. Umeda has successfully written and argued numerous discovery and dispositive motions. Mr. Umeda has also

negotiated the settlements of numerous class and shareholder derivative actions. For example, Mr. Umeda was one of the lead counsel in the *In re Nicor, Inc. Shareholder Derivative Litigation*, Case No. 02 CH 15499, a shareholder derivative action in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois. His efforts were a meaningful factor in the personnel changes among the company's executive officers and Board members, as well as the securing of \$33 million for the company. In recognition of the hard work and significant benefits conferred during the litigation, the Honorable Sophia H. Hall, Presiding Judge for the court, stated "Thank you very much for the good work that you all did. And I think that your stockholders will appreciate it, too. Thank you very much." Mr. Umeda was also described as "an excellent lawyer" who is "trying to do the best possible job he can for [his client]" by the Honorable Mark R. Forcum of the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo.

Mr. Umeda, on behalf of the Firm, was also appointed co-lead counsel by the court in *Imler, et al. v. AES Corporation, et al.*, No. 1:03-CV-00194-LJM-WTL (S.D. Ind.), to head the securities fraud class action litigation against AES Corporation and certain of its officers, wherein he assisted in the recovery of \$5 million for the class of stock purchasers. Mr. Umeda has also secured extensive corporate governance reforms in numerous shareholder derivative actions throughout the nation.

JEFFREY P. FINK

Mr. Fink is Co-Founder and a Principal of the Firm. Mr. Fink received his Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from the University of Rhode Island in 1986. Thereafter, Mr. Fink served Cowen and Company and its institutional, options and arbitrage departments as a Floor Clerk on the American Stock Exchange. Mr. Fink then earned his Master of Science in Hotel Administration from the University of Nevada Las Vegas in 1995 where he was awarded the Outstanding Graduate

Research Award for his paper "The Impact on Clark County Gaming Revenues from the Proliferation of Gaming Throughout the Country." While earning his degree, Mr. Fink worked for Mirage Resorts in Las Vegas, Nevada conducting casino analysis. In 1998, Mr. Fink received his law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law. Mr. Fink is licensed to practice in the State of California, the United States District Courts for the Northern, Central and Southern Districts of California, the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Mr. Fink has extensive experience in litigating complex insurance class action cases, securities arbitration cases, consumer fraud cases, invasion of privacy and wiretapping cases, shareholder derivative cases, ERISA class actions and securities fraud cases. Mr. Fink's expertise has been recognized on numerous occasions by courts who have appointed him to leadership positions charged with prosecuting complex litigations on behalf of plaintiffs.

Jeffrey P. Fink has broad experience in corporate, securities and shareholder derivative litigation. Most recently, Mr. Fink, in one of the most politically controversial corporate mergers in recent history, recently secured over \$500 million to Unocal Corporation shareholders as part of an increased bid by Chevron Corporation in *Leib, et al. v. Unocal Corp., et al.*, Case No. BC331316 (Cal. Super. Ct.). Additionally, Mr. Fink was instrumental in causing Unocal to issue a supplemental proxy statement that allowed Unocal shareholders to have a fully informed vote when considering Chevron Corporation's bid versus that of the Chinese National Offshore Oil Corporation.

Mr. Fink was appointed Co-Lead Counsel and assumed the role as lead litigator in *In re Titan, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, Master File No. 04-CV-0676-LAB (NLS) (SD Cal.). Through Mr. Fink's efforts the class received \$61.5 million, which amounted to half of the calculated damages, for

Titan's violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act which caused Lockheed Martin to back out of its multibillion dollar offer for Titan.

FELIPE J. ARROYO

Mr. Arroyo is a Principal of the Firm. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1989 and his law degree from the Yale Law School in 1992. While at Yale, he served as a Senior Editor of the *Yale Law Journal* and a Director of the Yale Moot Court of Appeals. After law school, Mr. Arroyo spent 2 years with New York-based Weil Gotshal & Manges, over 10 years with Los Angeles-based O'Melveny & Myers LLP and 2 years as corporate General Counsel for a fitness company. Mr. Arroyo is licensed to practice law in California and the United States District Court for the Central District of California. In addition to litigating complex shareholder derivative, securities fraud and corporate breach of fiduciary duty actions, Mr. Arroyo is committed to training and developing core litigation and trial skills for attorneys at the Firm.

Mr. Arroyo's entire legal career has been dedicated to complex litigation. He has prosecuted and defended numerous complex commercial, patent, securities fraud and breach of fiduciary duty actions. In leading many of these actions, Mr. Arroyo has conducted approximately 100 lay witness and expert depositions and argued numerous discovery, evidentiary and dispositive motions.

Mr. Arroyo has had broad exposure to an array of complex commercial litigation subjects arising in many different industries. In recent years, he led an investigation on behalf of a publicly traded entertainment company into alleged improprieties raised by a stock exchange concerning trading in its securities. He also managed and supervised a complex litigation defense team of 20 lawyers in contract litigation brought by hotel owners against a global, multi-billion dollar hotel

management company. In that multi-year case, Mr. Arroyo honed his electronic document management expertise as he negotiated and supervised the production of millions of pages of documents. He also has approximately 5 years securities litigation experience in separate cases in which he defended a computer microprocessor manufacturer, biotechnology company, and accounting firm. Mr. Arroyo has also led an international patent infringement litigation team in a successful effort to obtain approximately \$25 million in value for the inventor of a fitness device.

Mr. Arroyo is also an experienced trial lawyer. From 2001 through 2006, he directed a unique public/private partnership called the Trial Advocacy Prosecution Program (T.A.P.P.) in which attorneys from O'Melveny & Myers prosecuted approximately 10 to 20 criminal jury trials to verdict per year. In this time as the director of T.A.P.P., Mr. Arroyo was lead trial lawyer for 7 jury trials that went to verdict, and prosecuted innumerable motions *in limine* and suppression motions. In the last 18 months alone, Mr. Arroyo spent approximately 7 weeks in trial. As the director of T.A.P.P., Mr. Arroyo was also responsible for training and supervising other O'Melveny & Myers trial lawyers. In such capacity, he supervised and trained over 100 lawyers in core trial mechanics, including developing and delivering opening statements, conducting direct and cross examinations, working with exhibits and demonstratives in paper and electronic form, resolving evidentiary issues and giving persuasive closing arguments.

GEORGE C. AGUILAR

Mr. Aguilar is a Principal of the Firm. Before joining the Firm, Mr. Aguilar investigated, prosecuted and tried just about every type of offense prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office in San Diego during his seventeen year tenure as a federal prosecutor. He began his career with the United States Attorney's Office in the Trial Section, taking immigration and drug-related

offenses to trial, and then moved on to pursue grand jury investigations, indictments and trials in the areas of fraud, violent crime, firearms, civil rights and large-scale narcotics conspiracies in the Office's General Crimes Section. He later served four years as Chief of the Terrorism, Violent Crimes and General Prosecutions Section and also led a team of trial lawyers as a deputy chief for the General Crimes Section. In the area of complex fraud, Mr. Aguilar served four years as a trial lawyer on the Financial Institution Fraud Task Force and another four years in the Major Frauds Section. There, he led grand jury investigations, indicted and tried complex white collar criminal cases, including corporate, securities, bank, investor, tax, foreign currency and bankruptcy fraud, bank bribery and money laundering. His trial work in these sections achieved important convictions in *United States v. Heffner*, one of the largest bank bribery offenses ever committed, *United States v. McCray*, a massive fraudulent foreign currency operation resulting in the imprisonment of the operation's leader for nearly eighteen years, and *United States v. Scharnhorst* and *United States v. Simon*, damaging foreclosure relief scams.

Mr. Aguilar tried more than forty felony criminal trials to verdict, authored thirty five Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals briefs and argued more than a dozen cases on appeal before the Ninth Circuit. Mr. Aguilar's tenure included six years as one of the Office's supervising ethics officers. He was a member of the Office's hiring and death penalty committees. For his work, Mr. Aguilar received several awards of recognition from the United States Department of Justice and federal agencies, including receiving the prestigious Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys Director's Award.

Mr. Aguilar is also well-known in the local legal community, having served as vice-chair and chair of the Federal Courts Committee of the State Bar of California. He was appointed chair of the City of San Diego's Citizens Equal Opportunity Commission by two Mayors of the City of San

Diego. He served as president for both San Diego La Raza Lawyers and California La Raza Lawyers, and has been a long-time member and chair of San Diego La Raza Lawyers' Judicial Endorsements Committee. He was selected by the Southern District of California's federal judges to serve on the district's magistrate selection committee in its recent appointment of the federal magistrate for Imperial County. Mr. Aguilar received the San Diego Mediation Center's Peacemaker Award for his community service work and was an honoree of the Hispanic Heritage's 100 Portraits presentation.

Mr. Aguilar received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Journalism from the University of Southern California in 1983 and his law degree from Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley in 1986. While at Boalt, Mr. Aguilar served on the Moot Court Board and was managing editor of the La Raza Law Journal. After law school, he spent three years as an associate at Morrison & Foerster LLP in its San Francisco office working on complex securities litigation. He left Morrison & Foerster LLP to join the United States Attorney's Office in San Diego in January 1990. Mr. Aguilar joined the Firm in 2007 and now focuses his practice primarily in the litigation of complex actions, including securities fraud class actions and shareholder derivative actions. He is licensed to practice in the State of California and in the Northern and Southern Districts of California, as well as the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

OF COUNSEL

BENJAMIN ROZWOOD

Mr. Rozwood is Of Counsel to the Firm. Mr. Rozwood received his J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1994, where he served as President of the International Law Society and was awarded the Reginald Lewis International Fellowship. Prior to law school, Mr. Rozwood graduated *magna cum*

laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and as a Regents Scholar from UCLA in 1991.

Prior to joining the Firm, Mr. Rozwood spent six years in the securities and insurance litigation practice groups of O'Melveny & Myers LLP, one of the top firms in California and internationally. Mr. Rozwood also previously served as a corporate finance associate handling public and private, debt and equity offerings, combination transactions, tender offers, and related SEC filings. Mr. Rozwood has broad experience in corporate and securities litigation matters involving inadequate business and financial data reporting, GAAP noncompliance, insider trading, and illegal product pricing and sales practices in various industries including finance, energy, entertainment, communications, insurance, and the Internet. Some of Mr. Rozwood's complex litigation experience includes:

- Defeating a suit by bondholder plaintiffs to enjoin a \$12.9 billion debt exchange offer;
- Serving as counsel to the Audit Committee of a board of directors of a publicly traded company investigating certain accounting entries when the company's outside auditor expressed concerns before a scheduled earnings announcement. As part of this process, Mr. Rozwood interviewed current and former company employees including the CEO, CFO, and Controller, analyzed relevant books and records, reviewed company policies and procedures, and prepared conclusions and recommendations for presentation to the Audit Committee;
- Working on several securities fraud class actions, taking the lead role in researching and writing motions to dismiss, including the review of analyst reports, news releases, and SEC filings, and analysis of pleading requirements and "forward-looking" statement safe harbor issues. Mr. Rozwood also has significant experience interviewing witnesses in such cases, before and after the commencement of formal discovery;
- Successfully defending several executives of a de-listed public company in a suit brought by sophisticated foreign investors alleging fraud and breach of contract in a "death spiral" PIPE transaction. Mr. Rozwood was responsible for mapping out and executing the discovery plan, taking and defending depositions, presenting arguments at the mediation, supervising a team of over 10 lawyers and staff to execute an expanded discovery and dispositive motion strategy, and successfully writing and arguing key motions for summary adjudication. Mr. Rozwood's representation resulted in his client paying nothing and plaintiffs making a significant payment to Mr. Rozwood's client in settlement of its cross-claims;

- Researching, preparing and arguing a motion to compel NASD arbitration in a case involving complex securities and insurance products. Mr. Rozwood negotiated the protective order and handled all fact development and legal issues, including the respective duties of broker/dealers and issuers in those transactions. Based on witness interviews and review of key documents, Mr. Rozwood prepared the Statement of Answer, including a cross-claim for indemnity, wrote the mediation brief, presented the case at mediation, handled all negotiations and settled the case without his client paying anything. Mr. Rozwood also prevailed on the cross-claim for indemnity;
- Representing a major insurance company in shaping case strategy and organizing and supervising a team of associates to execute a discovery plan in an arbitration that went to trial before a panel of AAA arbitrators. Mr. Rozwood took and defended numerous depositions, and prepared and prevailed on a motion to compel key witnesses and documents. Mr. Rozwood also reviewed and analyzed key documents, including the Underwriting and Quota Share Reinsurance Agreements and damages production, and worked with damages expert to prepare his report. After researching relevant fiduciary duty principles for agents in insurance law contexts, Mr. Rozwood drafted the trial brief on that point and addressed form and rate filings with regulatory authorities and related actuarial justifications. After Mr. Rozwood cross-examined the other side's chief actuary and underwriter at trial, Mr. Rozwood's trial team defeated all adverse claims, and their client prevailed on some of its affirmative claims;
- Researching and preparing the opposition to plaintiffs' motion for a temporary restraining order and settling the case on favorable terms for his client before the hearing in a trademark infringement action brought by a major computer company;
- Researching and revising a demurrer based on plaintiff's improper joinder of defendants, and obtaining an outright dismissal of the suit in a unfair premium refund practices complaint alleging violations of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §17200 brought against a Bermuda-based property and casualty reinsurer; and
- Working on a trial team that defeated a \$100 million claim at trial for tortious business practices and contract breaches against one of the largest telecommunications services companies in the world. Mr. Rozwood researched and wrote numerous motions *in limine*, worked with statistics expert to prepare rebuttal declaration testimony supporting same, and drafted portions of the trial brief.

Mr. Rozwood also has extensive experience representing studios and television networks in a variety of assignments, including researching and writing anti-SLAPP motions, and successfully demurring to a false advertising suit on first amendment grounds. Mr. Rozwood has also represented

the executives of a top network in negotiating an extension to showrunner team's production contract in connection with renewal of a well-known TV series.

Mr. Rozwood has handled numerous contract and copyright claims and AFMA arbitrations, including several arbitrations relating to pre-sales and delivery disputes arising out of distribution contracts, and a suit to recover a Minimum Guarantee advance payment based on failure to meet delivery specifications.

Mr. Rozwood now focuses his litigation efforts on representing shareholders, consumers and employees in complex class and representative actions in California and throughout the United States.

ASSOCIATES

STEVEN J. SIMERLEIN

Mr. Simerlein earned a B.A. in Political Science from Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1983, graduating cum laude with departmental honors. Receiving a commission in the U.S. Navy after graduation, he first served as the Main Propulsion Assistant on the USS Dubuque (LPD-8), an amphibious transport dock for the U.S. Marines. While onboard, he received recognition as a top shiphandler in the Pacific Fleet for his ship type. In 1986, he was assigned as the Combat Systems Officer on the Navy hydrofoil USS Aquila (PHM-4). He participated in extensive drug smuggling interdiction and other special operations in the Caribbean Sea.

Following his military service, Mr. Simerlein attended Loyola of Los Angeles Law School, earning his J.D. in 1991. While at Loyola, he received the highest grade in Insurance Law and served on the school's International and Comparative Law Journal. He also served in the Los Angeles District Attorney's office, where he prosecuted 25 felony preliminary hearings and a

successful jury trial.

Mr. Simerlein began his legal career with the San Diego law firm of Jennings, Engstrand & Henrikson, where he practiced bankruptcy and public agency law. In his first year, Mr. Simerlein assisted the U.S. Trustee's office and creditors in Bankruptcy Court. In particular, he made numerous appearances on behalf of secured creditors that successfully moved for relief from the automatic bankruptcy stay. He also assisted the federal Resolution Trust Corporation with the favorable resolution of disputed loan guaranties. Finally, he also began to develop expertise in the representation of public entities, handling such diverse areas of practice from eminent domain, water and environmental law, and First Amendment disputes.

Mr. Simerlein then moved to the San Diego office of Weissburg & Aronson, Inc. He focused his practice on the representation of public agencies and public & private health care entities. Mr. Simerlein spent significant time as counsel to client boards and staff relative to service contracts, real estate acquisitions, eminent domain disputes, redevelopment, California Environmental Quality Act, insurance and self-insurance, conflict of interest, public records and open meetings laws. He also defended the firm's health care providers in regulatory enforcement proceedings by the state and federal government.

In 1996, Weissburg & Aronson, Inc. merged with the national law firm of Foley & Lardner LLP. Mr. Simerlein then began to focus the majority of his practice as a litigator in administrative, state and federal court forums. Mr. Simerlein became a partner at Foley & Lardner LLP in 2000. His wide variety of clients included public self-insurance pools, school, fire, and health care districts, skilled nursing and assisted living facilities for the elderly, and physician groups. He developed significant expertise in the areas of insurance and self-insurance pools, public contracts, bidding

disputes, mechanic's liens and stop notices, construction claims and disputes, regulatory and enforcement proceedings against health care clients, and the development of web sites.

In particular, his efforts on behalf of health care clients in about 50 matters before state and federal administrative law judges and hearing officers allowed clients to strike or minimize substantial proposed penalties, improve the quality of care rendered at the facilities and avoid closures that would have disrupted patient continuity of care. For his public entity clients, Mr. Simerlein litigated a wide variety of matters, including a bench trial in which the court granted an emergency easement to allow the timely completion of a school, post-judgment motions on behalf of a client that reduced potential interest on a claim by several million dollars, and school construction disputes in state and federal courts that uniformly resulted in favorable settlements or arbitrations for his clients.

Since joining the Firm, Mr. Simerlein's practice has narrowed to the litigation of class actions, shareholder derivative lawsuits, insurance disputes and related matters. Mr. Simerlein also is fluent in the Spanish language and has undertaken occasional pro bono work for under-represented Latino clients to help facilitate their access to the judicial system.

KEVIN A. SEELY

Kevin A. Seely is a former Assistant United States Attorney ("AUSA") with substantial experience in both criminal and civil fraud prosecutions. He is a trial lawyer with over 14 years of litigation practice in government and in the private sector. He graduated, *cum laude*, from the University of California at Irvine in 1989 and earned his Juris Doctor degree in 1992 from the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis & Clark College, where he was an Associate Editor of Law Review. He is licensed to practice law in California, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. At

the Firm, Mr. Seely focuses on representing shareholders, consumers and employees in complex class and representative actions in California and throughout the United States.

Mr. Seely has a proven track record in litigating and trying complex criminal and civil fraud cases. Throughout his career, Mr. Seely has been responsible for developing and implementing complex fraud and public corruption investigation and litigation strategies. While he was with the government, he has worked with and consulted, among others, numerous auditors, forensic accountants, and other experts, including agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Office of Inspector General, and Central Intelligence Agency. He has worked with these experts and agents to develop complicated investigations and to prepare matters for trial. In prosecuting these cases, Mr. Seely mastered, among other things, the tracing of fraudulent transactions through mazes of accounting spreadsheets and accounting records.

Over the years, Mr. Seely has handled countless complex and document-intensive discovery issues and disputes. He has represented several foreign entities, obtained documents from foreign countries, and taken depositions of foreign nationals. He has ample experience working closely with expert witnesses in a variety of technical fields and has logged hundreds of hours working with experienced forensic accountants in order to master complex accounting systems of the companies that were being investigated. He has perfected the skill of being able to translate complex and convoluted subject matter into understandable and logical facts able to be comprehended by the average juror.

Mr. Seely has argued numerous motions in both civil and criminal matters. He has assisted federal agencies in drafting detailed search warrants and document demands. He has taken numerous depositions and ample Grand Jury testimony. He has tried cases before judges and juries and he has

negotiated multi-million dollar settlements.

In doing all of this, Mr. Seely earned a reputation as a solid and tenacious trial lawyer. For example, he was once appointed by a court to perform as the lead defense counsel in a murder trial. Later in his career, as an AUSA, he successfully prosecuted high-ranking government officials, corporate entities, and sophisticated business professionals for a variety of fraud schemes, including wire and mail fraud, bribery, theft of government services, embezzlement, and healthcare fraud, among other things. Following a jury trial, wherein Mr. Seely obtained a guilty verdict against a former Finance Secretary for stealing public funds, the veteran District Court Judge presiding over the matter later commented that Mr. Seely's trial presentation was one of the best presentations that the judge had seen in his courtroom.

Before serving as an AUSA, Mr. Seely had already acquired substantial civil litigation experience. From 1992 to 1998, Mr. Seely was first an associate and then later a partner of the law firm of Mair, Mair, Spade & Thompson, P.C., where he primarily represented corporate clients in complex business and litigation matters. His primary areas of focus were in commercial litigation and insurance defense. During his tenure with the firm, Mr. Seely worked on a number of complex commercial cases, conducting numerous depositions and arguing countless discovery and dispositive motions and appeals.

As an AUSA for the Districts of Guam and Northern Mariana Islands from 1998 through 2000, Mr. Seely handled complex criminal matters for the United States government. His focus was on white collar crime and public corruption matters. Many of these cases involved claims of embezzlement and wire fraud by white collar professionals in the banking, government services and healthcare industries.

From 2000 to 2006, Mr. Seely served as an AUSA in the Southern District of California. In this position, Mr. Seely expanded his complex fraud prosecution practice to encompass civil fraud claims under the Federal False Claims Act. These cases, while varied, primarily involved the investigation and civil prosecution of fraudulent billing practices by defense contractors and healthcare providers.

CAROLINE ANN SCHNURER

Ms. Schnurer graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics from Scripps College in Claremont, California in 1995. She earned her law degree at the University of Notre Dame Law School in South Bend, Indiana in 1999. Ms. Schnurer is licensed to practice in the State of California.

Upon graduation from law school, Ms. Schnurer began an extensive practice in estate planning, probate, trust administration, conservatorships, elder law, and probate and trust litigation in Palm Springs, California. After moving to San Diego, Ms. Schnurer has concentrated her practice in the litigation of complex class actions, securities fraud and shareholder derivative actions. In the context of shareholder derivative claims, Ms. Schnurer has been successful in remanding shareholder derivative suits from federal court to state court. For example, in *Rabin v. Antioco, et al.*, No. 03CV1058 D (N.D. Tex.), a shareholder derivative suit brought on behalf of Blockbuster, Inc., the defendants removed the case to federal court based upon plaintiff's allegations of the defendants' violations of federal securities laws. Ms. Schnurer successfully argued that the allegations of the defendants' violations of federal securities were merely used as support for the defendants' violations of state fiduciary laws and were not essential in determining whether or not the defendants breached their fiduciary duties under state law. Then again, in *Fathergill v. Rouleau, et al.*, No. 03CV0879

D (N.D. Tex.), a shareholder derivative suit on behalf of Michaels Stores, Inc., the defendants claimed that the case should be removed to federal court because plaintiff's allegations of federal securities violations had to be adjudicated in order to resolve plaintiff's state law claims. Ms. Schnurer once again successfully argued that the allegations of federal securities violations were peripheral to the state law issues and that the state law allegations did not involve the resolution of a substantial question of federal law. Both cases were remanded and plaintiffs in both actions were awarded their attorneys' fees and costs incurred in connection with defendants' improvident removal. *See Young ex rel. Blockbuster, Inc. v. Antioco*, 2003 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 13786 (N.D. Tex. Aug. 6, 2003); *Fathergill v. Rouleau*, 2003 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 10654 (N.D. Tex. June 23, 2003).

MARK A. GOLOVACH

Mr. Golovach graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1998, where he was named to the Dean's List each semester. Mr. Golovach obtained a Juris Doctor degree from Tulane University School of Law in New Orleans, Louisiana in 2001. During law school, Mr. Golovach was selected by faculty members to participate in Tulane's Civil Law Clinic, where he represented indigent clients in employment, family law and landlord/tenant disputes as a student attorney. Mr. Golovach spent his law school summers working as a law clerk for the Honorable J.E. DeVilbiss in Aspen, Colorado and as a summer associate for Hillyer & Irwin in San Diego (concentrating on civil litigation matters). At the Firm, Mr. Golovach litigates complex commercial matters, including securities fraud class actions and shareholder derivative suits.

Since the beginning of his legal career, Mr. Golovach has focused on complex commercial litigation matters, including class actions. Mr. Golovach has gained experience throughout his legal

career in all phases of commercial litigation and complex case and fact development, from discovery to motion work. He has conducted or defended nearly 100 depositions in a varied range of cases. Mr. Golovach has also successfully written and argued numerous discovery and dispositive motions in both state and federal courts.

In addition to honing his legal skills over the years, Mr. Golovach has also remained a committed member of his community. His community leadership dates back to law school, where he was elected Vice President of the Sports Law Society. More recently, in 2003, Mr. Golovach served as a member of the Board of the San Diego Barristers Club. He is also involved in skill development organizations. In 2006, for example, he participated in the American Inns of Court, Louis M. Welsh chapter, a workshop that builds a variety of litigation skills. Mr. Golovach is licensed to practice law in the State of California and the United States District Court for the Southern District of California.

LOUIS A. KERKHOFF

Mr. Kerkhoff graduated with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in Economics from the Louisiana State University in 1998. He earned his law degree at the Louisiana State University, Paul M. Hebert Law Center in 2002, where he was awarded the Center for Computer Assisted Legal Instruction Excellence for the Future Award for the top score in Uniform Commercial Code Sales. While in law school, Mr. Kerkhoff was also a member of the *Louisiana Law Review*.

Since joining the Firm, Mr. Kerkhoff has concentrated his practice in the litigation of complex class actions and shareholder derivative actions. Mr. Kerkhoff is licensed to practice law in the State of California.

SHANE P. SANDERS

Mr. Sanders received his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of California at Santa Barbara ("UCSB") in May 2001. He was also a member of UCSB's Division I track and field team, specializing in the 400-meter dash. In May 2004, he obtained his Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego School of Law ("USD"). During law school, Mr. Sanders worked as a law clerk at the San Diego County Public Defender's Office, where he represented clients in various criminal matters and gained invaluable experience both in and out of the courtroom. He gained further experience in legal writing and oral argument through his participation in USD's Thorsnes Closing Argument Competition and Senior Honors Moot Court Competition. He was also a member of the Sports and Entertainment Law Society and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America.

Since joining the Firm, Mr. Sanders has concentrated his practice in the litigation of complex class actions, securities fraud and shareholder derivative actions. Mr. Sanders is licensed to practice law in the state of California.

REBECCA A. PETERSON

Ms. Peterson received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a focus in Philosophy of Political Thought and a concentration in Environmental Studies from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota in 1998. While attending St. Olaf, Ms. Peterson was a frequent contributor of opinion pieces to the student newspaper, Manitou Messenger. As an undergraduate, Ms. Peterson was also an intern for the American Bar Association's Section of International Law in Washington D.C. Upon graduation, Ms. Peterson went to work at North State Advisers, a governmental and public relations firm in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where she served as the Communications Specialist and a Lobbyist. While at North State Advisers, Ms. Peterson advised clients on political strategies,

effectively argued client issues before elected officials, drafted amendments and introduced bills on behalf of clients. Ms. Peterson left North State Advisers in 2002 to attend law school.

In May 2005, Ms. Peterson received her Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego School of Law. During law school, Ms. Peterson was a law clerk for the County Attorney's Office of Ramsey County in Minnesota and a research assistant to Kevin Cole, the present Dean of the University of San Diego School of Law. Additionally, Ms. Peterson was a law clerk at the Attorney General's Office of the State of California in the Criminal division of Appeals, Writs and Trials in San Diego. Ms. Peterson, as a certified law student, had the very unique opportunity to submit multiple Respondent Briefs on behalf of the State and successfully argue two cases in front of the Court of Appeals.

In the fall of 2005, Ms. Peterson was licensed under the General Securities Representative Examination, informally known as the Series 7, to solicit, purchase and/or sell all securities products and under the series 66 as an Investment Advisor Representative.

Since joining the Firm, Ms. Peterson has concentrated her practice in the litigation of complex securities class actions and shareholder derivative actions. Ms. Peterson is licensed to practice law in the State of California.

ASHLEY R. PALMER

Ms. Palmer received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of California at Santa Barbara ("UCSB") in May 2002. She then accepted a full scholarship to Thomas Jefferson School of Law, where she obtained her Juris Doctor in May 2006. Ms. Palmer graduated from law school, *summa cum laude*, second in her class out of 194 students. While in law school, Ms. Palmer was Chief Articles Editor and Notes Editor of Law Review and Vice President of Operations of the

advocacy study abroad program in London, England. As a Mini-Pupil, Ms. Klemann was able to shadow both a criminal barrister and solicitor and assisted in a criminal trial.

Since joining the Firm, Ms. Klemann has concentrated her practice in the litigation of breach of fiduciary duty actions involving publicly traded companies and their current and past officers and directors. Ms. Klemann is licensed to practice in the State of California.

DANIEL R. FORDE

Mr. Forde received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Arizona in December 2002. While at the University of Arizona, Mr. Forde served as an intern for two years for United States Senator John McCain, working directly with constituents to resolve disputes with various federal agencies. Mr. Forde also assisted Senator McCain in his year 2000 presidential bid. As an undergraduate, Mr. Forde also served as the president and philanthropy chair of the 120-member fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta.

Mr. Forde earned his Juris Doctor from California Western School of Law in April 2006. During law school, Mr. Forde earned an Academic Achievement Award in Securities Regulation and authored original thesis papers providing analysis of: (i) the U.S. Sherman Antitrust Act; and (ii) the European Union's Anti-Competition Laws. Prior to his completion of law school, Mr. Forde worked as a summer associate for the Firm and also completed an internship with the San Diego City Attorney, Civil Division, working on numerous municipal bond offerings. Additionally, Mr. Forde worked as a law clerk with a solo practitioner in a major California Blue Sky securities fraud bench trial. Finally, Mr. Forde also completed an internship at British Telecom in London, England, working with in-house counsel on important corporate governance matters.

Since joining the Firm, Mr. Forde has concentrated his practice in the litigation of corporate

merger actions, complex class actions, and securities fraud and shareholder derivative actions. Mr. Forde is licensed to practice in the state of California.

ARSHAN AMIRI

Mr. Amiri earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry with an emphasis in Biological Chemistry from the University of Utah in 2001. Following his undergraduate studies, Mr. Amiri enrolled in the graduate program for Bioengineering at the University of Utah, and completed his Master of Science program in 2003. During his Master of Science studies, Mr. Amiri's research focused on the targeted delivery of polymer conjugated anti-cancer compounds to tumor sites for cancer therapy. In the summer of 2003, he presented his work at an international science conference for the Controlled Release Society.

Mr. Amiri earned his law degree at the University of San Diego School of Law in 2006. While in law school, Mr. Amiri served as a judicial extern to the Honorable Rudi M. Brewster of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California. Mr. Amiri focused much of his legal coursework on the study of Intellectual Property law by taking such classes as Patent law, Biotechnology law, Intellectual Property Seminar, and an International Intellectual Property. Additionally, Mr. Amiri served as a law clerk to a sole patent practitioner.

Since joining the firm, Mr. Amiri has concentrated his practice in the litigation of corporate merger actions, shareholder derivative actions and breach of fiduciary duty actions involving publicly traded companies. Mr. Amiri is licensed to practice in the state of California.

JULIA M. WILLIAMS

Ms. Williams graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Economics (with Honors) from the University of California, San Diego in 2002. After graduation, she worked

as a financial analyst at a Fortune 500 company. In this position, she prepared presentations and accompanying materials for monthly, quarterly and annual board of directors and executive officer meetings, drafted company financial reports, and participated in the preparation of company wide financials and Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

In May 2006, Ms. Williams obtained her law degree from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, with a concentration in Business Law. While in law school, Ms. Williams was Managing Editor for the Entertainment Law Review, and a staff member of the Journal of International Law and Foreign Affairs. Ms. Williams also participated in Moot Court and numerous student volunteer organizations, and was the recipient of the Graduate Opportunity Fellowship.

Upon graduation from law school, Ms. Williams began practice in general civil and business litigation. Since joining the Firm, she has concentrated her practice in the litigation of corporate merger actions, complex class actions, and securities fraud and shareholder derivative actions. Ms. Williams is licensed to practice in the state of California.

PARALEGALS

KATHERINE B. SCHEELE

Ms. Scheele graduated from the University of California at San Diego in June of 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Studio Art, with a minor in Spanish Literature. In June of 2005, Ms. Scheele earned her American Bar Association approved paralegal certificate from the University of California San Diego. Since joining the Firm, Ms. Scheele has concentrated on assisting the Firm in litigating complex shareholder derivative and class action litigation.

KRISTIN E. HUSTON

Ms. Huston graduated *magna cum laude* from the California State University San Marcos

in 1999 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies and a minor in Sociology. Ms. Huston then earned her American Bar Association approved paralegal certificate from the University of California San Diego in 2002. Since joining the Firm, Ms. Huston has concentrated on assisting the Firm in litigating complex shareholder derivative and class action litigation.

SEAN M. PUTTICK

Mr. Puttick graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (with Honors) degree in Economics and Political Science from the University of Leeds (U.K.) in 1997. After college, Mr. Puttick became a Document Clerk at Beasley and Co. Solicitors in Manchester, England. He then moved to London to work for an independent record label, Hooj Choons Ltd., as an assistant to the Director, helping to sign new artists and negotiate contracts with their management. In 2002, Mr. Puttick took a job as an Editorial Assistant at the San Francisco Chronicle where he gained a copy editing qualification. In 2004, Mr. Puttick earned his American Bar Association approved paralegal certificate from New York University. During and after obtaining his certificate, Mr. Puttick worked as a paralegal at Milberg Weiss, assisting in the litigation of several mutual funds securities cases and multi-district litigation in the health care arena. He moved to San Diego in 2005 and joined Robbins Umeda & Fink, LLP as a paralegal. Since joining the Firm, Mr. Puttick has concentrated on assisting the Firm in litigating complex shareholder derivative and class action litigation.

LISA A. DOZIER

Ms. Dozier graduated from the University of Southern Indiana in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications with an emphasis in Journalism and a minor in Psychology. Prior to becoming a paralegal, Ms. Dozier focused on assisting her small business with drafting overseas licensing contracts and preparing and filing copyright and trademark applications. In

September 2006, Ms. Dozier earned her American Bar Association approved paralegal certificate from the University of California San Diego, graduating with a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. Since joining the Firm, Ms. Dozier has concentrated on assisting the Firm in litigating complex shareholder derivative and class action litigation.

CHRISTOPHER M. BOUCHER

Mr. Boucher received his Bachelor of Arts in History from Williams College in 2003, which included coursework at the University of London. As an undergraduate, Mr. Boucher served as an intern to an Associate Justice of the Juvenile Court for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, where he worked closely with social workers and observed legal procedures relating to the care and protection of children. Most recently, Mr. Boucher was a paralegal with Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman LLP in New York City where his work focused on complex civil matters such as mass tort and product liability, including performing in-court trial work regarding the 1993 World Trade Center Bombing. Since joining the Firm, Mr. Boucher has concentrated on assisting the Firm in litigating complex shareholder derivative and class action litigation.

APRIL R. LYONS

Ms. Lyons graduated from San Diego State University in 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work. As an undergraduate student, Ms. Lyons worked for the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency: Child Welfare Services, where she worked closely with children and families in connection with issues of child abuse and neglect. Ms. Lyons also received her American Bar Association approved paralegal certificate in 2005 from the University of San Diego, where she graduated with Honors with an emphasis in Business and Environmental Law. Since joining the Firm, Ms. Lyons has concentrated on assisting the Firm in litigating complex shareholder derivative

and class action litigation.

ANNA-MARIE BOEHMER

Ms. Boehmer received her American Bar Association approved paralegal certificate in 1997 from Fairleigh Dickinson University, in Madison, New Jersey. Ms. Boehmer, however, began her legal career in 1989 with the law firm of Ravin, Sarasohn, Cook, Baumgarten, Fisch & Rosen, P.C., assisting with debtor representation in Chapter 7, 11 and 13 bankruptcy matters in the federal districts of New Jersey, New York and Delaware. After moving to Las Vegas, Nevada in July of 2000, Ms. Boehmer joined the firm of Shea & Carlyon, Ltd. as a paralegal, assisting with creditor representation in Nevada bankruptcy cases and civil litigation matters. In 2007, Ms. Boehmer moved to San Diego and joined Robbins Umeda & Fink, LLP as a paralegal. Since joining the Firm, Ms. Boehmer has concentrated on assisting the Firm in litigating complex shareholder derivative and class action litigation.

INVESTIGATIONS

ALICE CURRY

Ms. Curry received her Bachelor of Arts in English and Communication from Boston College in 1989. While attending Boston College, Ms. Curry interned for both The Boston Phoenix newspaper and the Screen Actors Guild. In 1993, Ms. Curry received her Juris Doctor from Pepperdine University School of Law.

Following graduation from Pepperdine, Ms. Curry worked for Court TV, a 24 hour cable network, dedicated to televising the judicial system. She began in their documentary unit and later became a field producer covering live and taped trials across the country. In 2001, she won the Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia University award, for her work on "The Interrogation of Michael

Crowe," a one hour program on coerced confessions which involved a San Diego teenager wrongly accused of murdering his sister. The award, created in 1935, is to honor the contribution of those who work in television and radio journalism. At Court TV, Ms. Curry conducted numerous on-camera interviews with the defense, the prosecution and the accused, and drafted news packages for daily broadcasts.

Following her work with Court TV, Ms. Curry worked in the investigation unit of one of the largest class action firms in the United States. Ms. Curry conducted hundreds of interviews with former executives and employees of companies in an effort to assist in the prosecution of securities fraud actions. Ms. Curry's experience covers a broad spectrum of corporate mismanagement, including Medicaid fraud, bid-rigging in the insurance industry, the use of soft dollars in the mutual fund industry and the use of pipe financing in internet start-ups.

Since joining the firm, Ms. Curry has concentrated on investigating corporate mismanagement and self-dealing in connection with shareholder derivative lawsuits. Ms. Curry is licensed to practice law in the State of California.

EXHIBIT D

PASKOWITZ & ASSOCIATES

FIRM RESUME

Paskowitz & Associates specializes in class actions brought on behalf of shareholders and consumers.

Mr. Laurence Paskowitz, the firm's senior attorney, began his career at what was then Pomerantz Levy Haudek & Block (now Pomerantz Haudek Block Grossman & Gross), a firm founded by the late Abraham Pomerantz, who was often referred to as "the father of the shareholder class action." During his tenure there as an associate from 1983-89, Mr. Paskowitz played a principal role in a variety of cases involving tender offers, mergers, securities fraud, and antitrust law.

Mr. Paskowitz joined Wolf Popper Ross Wolf & Jones in 1989 (now Wolf Popper, LLP), became a partner in 1991, and then Chairman of the Corporate and Commercial Litigation Department in 1995. Wolf Popper is one of the most prominent national firms specializing in shareholder and consumer rights, and complex corporate litigation. While there, Mr. Paskowitz served as lead counsel or co-lead counsel on more than two dozen shareholder actions, including class and derivative actions involving excessive compensation. Mr. Paskowitz won settlements of \$12 million derivatively on behalf of Brooke Group, Inc., a similar amount for Citizens Utilities Corp., and \$9 million for Lin Broadcasting Corp. Mr. Paskowitz also played a leading role in obtaining class action settlements in securities fraud actions against Tenneco Corp. (\$50 million settlement); McDonell Douglas Equipment Leasing Securities Litigation (\$35 million recovery); Valley National Corp. (\$10 million settlement); and Security Pacific Corp. (\$9 million settlement). From 1997-2000, Mr. Paskowitz was a sole practitioner, who

continued to specialize in shareholder litigation. During this period, he was among a team of lawyers who initiated the shareholder litigation over the collapse of USN Communications, an action which was resolved for \$45 million.

In 2000, Mr. Paskowitz formed the firm of Abraham & Paskowitz. During his tenure at that firm from 2000 through March, 2002, Mr. Paskowitz served as lead or co-lead counsel for cases that achieved substantial recoveries, including *In re Netcreations Shareholder Litigation* (improvement in buyout price of \$12 million for class of investors) and *In re CSFBdirect Shareholders Litigation* (shareholders who objected to unfair tender offer price paid \$36 million more for their shares pursuant to settlement). The firm also recovered \$20 million in cash in a “short swing” insider profit case--what was then the largest cash recovery ever achieved in a case of that nature *Steiner v. Williams*, 2001 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 7097 (S.D.N.Y. May 31, 2001)(“Here the shareholders...received a \$20,000,000 benefit as a sole result of the diligence and sagacity of Plaintiff’s counsel.”).

Mr. Paskowitz graduated with highest honors from the Hofstra University School of Law in 1983, where he served as an editor of the *Hofstra Law Review*. He has published articles that have appeared in the *Hofstra Law Review* and *The New York Law Journal*, and has been a member of the New York State Bar Association Committee on Class Actions. Mr. Paskowitz has been admitted to the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the District of Arizona, and the Federal Courts of Appeals for the Second and Fifth Circuits. He has practiced before federal and state courts throughout the country, and before the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation.

Paskowitz & Associates was founded in April, 2002 and employs as “of counsel” to the firm Mr. Roy L. Jacobs, an attorney who has concentrated in shareholder litigation for over 20 years, and who has been instrumental in guiding complex litigations which have achieved millions of dollars in recoveries.

Mr. Jacobs, is a 1975 *cum laude* graduate of Brooklyn Law School. From 1975-1987 he was an attorney in Texaco Inc.’s legal department at its corporate headquarters, wherein he successfully handled a wide array complex commercial and antitrust litigation from inception through trial, including an eight week antitrust jury trial in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, which resulted in a complete victory for Texaco.

Thereafter, while at Wolf Popper LLP, a firm which concentrated in securities and shareholder litigation, Mr. Jacobs worked on numerous complex class and derivative actions, and handled much of the Firm’s non-class litigation, representing both plaintiffs and defendants from inception through trial. While at Wolf Popper, Mr. Jacobs was one of the lead counsel in *Maywalt v. Parker & Parsley Petroleum Company*, 864 F. Supp. 1422 (S.D.N.Y. 1994), *aff’d* 67 F.3d 1072 (2d Cir. 1995), which resulted in a recovery to the shareholder class in excess of \$8 million.

In December 1996, he opened his own firm in New York City emphasizing business and commercial litigation, securities arbitrations, securities and consumer class actions and general litigation. Since opening his own practice, Mr. Jacobs has recovered millions of dollars for clients, including the settlement of an action pending in the United States District Court for the Central District of California of almost \$4 million from an insurance company which had failed to pay on a life insurance policy. The settlement

constituted approximately 2.5 times the face amount of the policy. Mr. Jacobs has also obtained numerous favorable settlements in securities arbitrations and mediations before NASD Regulation, Inc. and the New York Stock Exchange representing customers against Broker-Dealers. In court cases, Mr. Jacobs has obtained recoveries in a wide range of matters, including will contests, real property quiet title actions, EEOC actions, actions for false arrest and other intentional torts. Additionally, Mr. Jacobs has successfully defended clients sued in both state and federal court in New York, securing dismissal of the claims against them, including actions under the securities laws, fraudulent conveyance claims and piercing the corporate veil. Mr. Jacobs has handled a number of appeals in state and federal courts.

Mr. Jacobs has over 25 years experience in handling complex litigation and corporate matters. He is admitted to the courts of New York, the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the United States Courts of Appeal for the Second, Seventh, Ninth, and D.C. Circuits.

Paskowitz & Associates served as lead counsel or co-lead counsel in *Steven Madden Corp. Derivative Litigation* (achieving \$8.6 million derivative settlement in action alleging unfair employment contract for CEO who was convicted of money laundering and securities fraud); *Capital One Consumer Practices Litigation* (predatory lending practices); and played a key role in achieving a \$41 million settlement in *In re New Power Secs. Litig.*, 02 CV 0550 (SDNY), where the firm represented Co-Lead Plaintiff Michael Bertan.

In addition, Paskowitz & Associates was appointed Co-Lead Counsel by the Delaware Court of Chancery in *In re Cablevision/Rainbow Media Tracking Stock*

Litigation, Cons. C.A. No. 19819, which seeks over \$1 billion in damages relating to an unfair transaction with minority shareholders. On April 19, 2005, the Court in that action denied a motion to dismiss. We also served as lead counsel in *Berger v. Scharf*, a class action pending in New York Supreme Court on behalf of shareholders who were harmed when the directors breached their fiduciary duties by voluntary de-listing the company's public shares. In that case, which was successfully settled, we prevailed on a motion to dismiss in a decision which made new law regarding shareholder rights. *Berger v. Scharf*, 2006 N.Y. Misc. LEXIS 674 (N.Y. Sup. Mar. 29, 2006). We additionally have been appointed as co-lead counsel in *In re MBNA Corp. Derivative and Class Litigation*, a case pending in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware which challenges the fairness of the \$36 billion acquisition of MBNA by Bank of America.

Most recently, Paskowitz & Associates was appointed co-lead counsel in a complex securities class action involving Cutera, Inc., a case pending in the Northern District of California, and represented the majority of class representatives in *In re IDT Calling Card Terms Litigation*, MDL No. 1550 (D. N.J.), which settled for over \$20 million in consumer benefits in May 2007, a settlement deemed by the Hon. Susan D. Wigenton to be fair, reasonable and adequate.